

03500.015447.3

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of: |) | |
| (Div. Application of U.S. Patent Application | : | |
| No. 10/323,754, filed December 20, 2002, which |) | |
| is a Division of U.S. Patent Application | : | |
| No. 10/178,229, filed June 25, 2002, now |) | |
| U.S. Patent No. 6,577,823 issued June 10, 2003, | : | |
| which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent |) | |
| Application No. 09/879,184, filed June 13, 2001) | : | |
| Minoru Matsuguma, et al. |) | Examiner: UNASSIGNED |
| Application No.: UNASSIGNED | : | Art Unit: UNASSIGNED |
| Filed: December 10, 2003 |) | |
| For: METHOD OF DETECTING LIFE | : | |
| OF IMAGE BEARING MEMBER, |) | |
| IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS, AND | : | |
| CARTRIDGE |) | October 10, 2003 |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

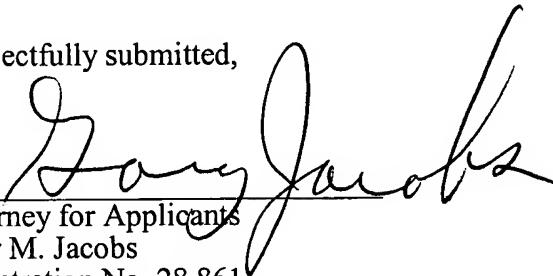
In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. These documents were cited in great-grandparent Application No. 09/879,184, filed June 13, 2001, in grandparent Application No. 10/178,229, filed June 25, 2002, and in parent Application No. 10/323,754, filed December 20, 2002. Therefore copies are not being provided in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered by the Examiner and that an annotated copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned with the next official communication indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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|---|--|--|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Date: October 10, 2003 | | | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.0 15447.3 | | APPLICATION NO. Div. of 10/323,754 | |
| | | | | APPLICANT Minoru Matsuguma, et al. | | | |
| | | | | FILING DATE October 10, 2003 | | GROUP UNASSIGNED | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------|------------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| | 5,426,488 | 6/20/95 | HAYAKAWA, ET AL. | 355 | 219 | |
| | 5,420,671 | 5/30/95 | KISU, ET AL. | 355 | 219 | |
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| | 5,278,612 | 1/11/94 | INUI | 399 | 26 | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|----------|---------|-------|----------|---------------------------------------|--|
| | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT | |
| | 4-51259 | 2/19/92 | JAPAN | | | Abst. | |
| | 5-188674 | 7/30/93 | Japan | | | Abst. | |
| | 4-98265 | 3/30/92 | Japan | | | Abst. | |
| | 6-180518 | 6/28/94 | Japan | | | Abst. | |
| | 63-149669 | 6/22/88 | Japan | | | Abst. | |
| | 1-267667 | 10/25/89 | Japan | | | Abst. | |
| | 6-130732 | 5/13/94 | Japan | | | Abst. | |
| | 5-333626 | 12/17/93 | Japan | | | Abst. | |

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|--|--|--|--|-----------------|--|--|--|
| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER | | | | DATE CONSIDERED | | | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.